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*Sanitary reports from Santiago.*SANTIAGO DE CUBA, *April 17, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report on the sanitary condition of Santiago de Cuba for the week ended Saturday, April 17: There were 62 deaths noted for this period; of these, 15 from dysentery, 12 from enteritis, acute and chronic; 4 from remittent fever, 1 from pernicious remittent fever, 3 from tuberculosis, 1 from smallpox; the rest from common diseases.

The general health has somewhat ameliorated owing to the heavy falls of rain experienced lately, which have cleaned the streets and carried all the garbage accumulated during the summer months into the sea. There are some cases of smallpox, but so far they seem mild in character.

The attached clipping is from the *Liberal*, the official organ of the liberal party, published in Madrid. In its issue of March 21 it says:

From the sanitary statistical report sent by General Losada (surgeon-general of the army) to the minister of war, there were, on February 28, 16,000 sick soldiers in the hospitals of the Island of Cuba. Of these, 10,000 were from common diseases, 4,000 malarial cases, and about 300 from yellow fever.

Respectfully,

Dr. H. S. CAMINERO,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, *April 24, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that 62 deaths have been recorded this week. Of these, 12 were from dysentery, 5 from tuberculosis, 6 from diarrhea, 2 from remittent, and 4 from pernicious fevers, the rest from common diseases of noncontagious character. There are some cases of smallpox in the town just now and a great many children with varicella. Dysentery has decreased somewhat and there are no cases of yellow fever at present.

Respectfully,

Dr. H. S. CAMINERO,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

## INDIA.

*Remarks on the official summary of deaths and births in the city of Bombay for the week ended March 30, 1897.*

BOMBAY, *April 1, 1897.*

SIR: As will be noted, the mortality of the past week is about stationary. With the return of population into the city in many localities where the plague was supposed to be thoroughly stamped out by disinfectants and lime washing and no case had been reported for a long time, fresh cases are again of daily occurrence. During the last few weeks a large number of servants at the European bungalows have been attacked, where, if anywhere, the most favorable conditions are present as regards sanitary, clean buildings, with ample supply of light and air. There are now forty-one hospitals established for the treatment of plague cases, one of which, the plague ward of St. George's Hospital, is exclusively for Europeans. The pestilence is epidemic in Western India from 15° to 28° north latitude and extending from the coast 150 miles into the interior.

Population according to census of 1891.....	821, 764
Present population, for the purpose of this report, estimated one-half the above..	410, 882
Total number of deaths reported for the week.....	1, 141

Total number of deaths for corresponding week last year.....	594
Mean of corresponding week previous five years .....	544
Allowing that one-half the population has left the city, the proportionate number of deaths based on the mean of previous five years would be.....	272
Number of deaths last week that may be attributed to plague.....	869
Average per day from plague.....	124
Number of deaths from plague officially reported for week.....	496
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Average per day .....	71
Probable average number of deaths per day from plague reported as having died of other diseases.....	53
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Officially reported death rate for the last week per 1,000.....	124
Same for corresponding week last year.....	70. 87
Mean for corresponding week previous five years.....	35. 81
Number of births reported last week.....	32. 90
Number of births for corresponding week last year.....	89
Mean number for corresponding week previous five years .....	234
	240

C. F. MEYER,  
*United States Vice-Consul.*

#### ITALY.

#### *International Sanitary Conference.*

ROME, ITALY, *March 29, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose my report dealing with the general features and conclusions of the International Sanitary Conference recently held at Venice.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WALLACE S. JONES,  
*Consul-General of the United States at Rome, Diplomatic Representative on the part of the United States to the International Sanitary Conference at Venice.*

HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure.]

#### REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL SANITARY CONFERENCE HELD AT VENICE (FEBRUARY 16 TO MARCH 19, 1897).

Venice made her first commercial ventures in the East, and in consequence was soon visited by the pest. From the year 900 to 1500 she experienced 63 epidemics. This little republic was the first to introduce a sanitary system. In 1341 she created health inspectors, a sanitary bureau, and a lazaretto, which served as models to the rest of Europe. It seems but fitting, therefore, that an international sanitary conference, called to devise means to prevent the pest from reaching Europe should choose this city for its sittings.

The first international sanitary conference was held in Paris in 1851; the second in 1859. The object of this conference was to revise the proceedings of the first, but its labors were interrupted by the breaking out of the war between Austria and Italy. Subsequent international sanitary conferences were held in Constantinople in 1866; Vienna, 1874; Washington, 1881; Rome, 1885; Venice, 1892; Dresden, 1893; Paris, 1894. Only the decisions of the last three international conferences have been carried out.

The convention of the Venice conference of 1892 was the first international agreement ever ratified by the Great Powers. This was due, probably, to the fact that prior to 1892 the resolutions were based on quarantine detention, i. e., after a voyage it was deemed necessary to quarantine ships with clean bills of health, without a single suspicious case on board; this regulation being based on the theory that a case of sickness might yet break out. For over fifty years Great Britain has been opposed to quarantine measures and has never been willing to enter into an international agreement upon this basis.